

Habits of the Gooney. — My attention has been called to recent notes by Messrs. Henshaw and Mead on the habits of a Pacific species of Albatross, or Gooney, as the species of *Diomedea* are almost universally called by sailors in the North Pacific.

As to whether the species roost on the yards of vessels or spend the night resting on the water, I can say that I have never known an Albatross to attempt to alight on the spars of a ship, and I very much doubt their so doing although Gulls and Boobies often rest for hours on the yards or in the shrouds. I have often beguiled the weary hours of a 'trick' on deck at night, by watching the albatrosses as they tacked to and fro in the wake of the vessel. When there was sufficient moonlight I have seen them pass and light near the course of the vessel, and then, after having dropped astern some distance, they would come straggling along to pass and alight as before. Even on the darkest nights they may sometimes be seen against the sky as they follow in the wake of vessels, and it is my opinion that they follow until they feel the need of rest, probably several days, and make no attempt to find a vessel that has passed beyond the limits of their horizon.

Gulls also will, at times, follow the same vessel for several days if the course taken is near the coast, but they soon drop the deep sea craft. I once noted a *Larus glaucescens* with distinctive markings which followed the coast steamer from San Diego to San Francisco for nearly three days.—A. W. ANTHONY, *Portland, Oregon.*

Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus auduboni*) on the Coast of Virginia.—A Shearwater from Cobb's Island, sent me several years ago by Capt. C. H. Crumb, taken, according to the label, on September 1, 1893, proves to be of this species.

For the following additional particulars regarding these Shearwaters, I am indebted to Mr. William Palmer. Mr. Palmer informs me that during his return voyage from Havana, last August, on the way north to Cape Hatteras, great numbers of them were to be seen for about a day and a half. Early in October, Mr. Palmer again saw several at Virginia Beach, Va. It seems possible that this bird may occur not infrequently off the Virginia coast.—WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D., *Washington, D. C.*

The Mexican Cormorant in Colorado.—A specimen of this species (*Phalacrocorax mexicanus*), an adult male, was taken Oct. 15, 1899, at Smith's Lake, fourteen miles north of Denver, Colorado.—A. H. FELGER, *Denver, Colorado.*

A Virginia Record for the American Eider (*Somateria dresseri*).—On Dec. 28, 1900, a female American Eider (*Somateria dresseri*) was taken on Broadwater Bay, near Cobb's Island, Virginia. So far as I am able to learn this bird has not been previously recorded south of the Capes of Delaware.—HENRY BRYANT BIGELOW, *Cohasset, Mass.*